

سكنا من الصل

## Goria government resigns

ROME (AP) — Premier Giovanni Goria, his 64-month-old government battered by political infighting and a hostile parliament, resigned Wednesday as head of Italy's 47th government after World War II. Goria, a Christian Democrat who headed a five-party coalition, submitted his resignation to President Francesco Cossiga, who asked him to stay on as caretaker premier until a new government can be formed. After consultations with political leaders over the next few days, Cossiga is expected to name a premier-designate to try to form a new government. Goria, who at 44 was Italy's youngest premier, has struggled ever since taking office last Aug. 1. He was weakened by feuding between the coalition's two dominant parties, the Christian Democrats and Socialists, and finally undone by a factional struggle within his own party. The other coalition parties were the tiny Republicans, Social Democrats and Liberals. Goria announced his decision to resign in a speech to the Chamber of Deputies, the lower house of parliament, where his government was defeated on numerous votes in recent weeks.

# Jordan Times

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## Non-Aligned Movement hits at Israel

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe, speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, called Wednesday for maximum pressure on Israel to "cease forthwith the gunning down of defenceless Palestinians." In a statement issued in his capacity as chairman of the movement, Mugabe called on the U.N. Security Council to intensify efforts towards an international Middle East peace conference. "In the meantime, we also call upon the secretary-general of the United Nations to institute appropriate measures to ensure the security of the Palestinians in the occupied territories," the statement said.

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## Arafat calls for Palestinian elections

HAMBURG (AP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has called on the United Nations to take over administration of the Israeli-occupied territories and hold free elections there, Stern magazine said Wednesday. Arafat, in an interview with the West German newsweekly, said the West Bank and Gaza Strip should be turned over to the United Nations for administering. "After that, there should be free elections under international supervision in both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, which of course should be undertaken with participation of the PLO," Stern quoted Arafat as saying. Arafat told the magazine that the elections should be followed by an international peace conference to be held in the region. Israeli journalist and former Knesset deputy Uri Avnery, who also took part in the interview, backed the proposal for an international peace conference.

**Klibi welcomes EC statement**  
TUNIS (R) — The Arab League has welcomed sharp criticism from European Community (EC) foreign ministers of Israel's handling of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories. Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi said Monday's EC statement was positive because it reaffirmed a 1980 EC declaration that the Palestinian people had a right to self-determination. "The EC statement criticised Israel for using 'repressive tactics' to quell the uprising. Klibi said Tuesday that in proclaiming Israel's settlements policy illegal, the EC statement had affirmed 'that all which has been built on the basis of such a policy is null and void and that control exercised by Israel on occupied Arab territories is against the law.'"

**More than 80 killed in Bangladesh clashes**  
DHAKA (AP) — Supporters of rival candidates clashed with rocks, guns and homemade bombs Wednesday, killing more than 80 people and injuring hundreds as local elections were held throughout Bangladesh. The death toll came from reports by police, hospitals and newsmen in outlying villages. They said the injury toll could exceed 2,000. The federal home ministry which is responsible for internal security, confirmed 39 deaths in clashes between rival groups and in some police firing to scatter mobs. It had no injury figures (See earlier story on page 8).

**S. African troops crush homeland coup**  
MMABATHO, South Africa (R) — South African troops crushed an army coup in the homeland of Bophuthatswana on Wednesday, rescuing the deposed president of the tribal mini-state best known for its Sun City gambling and leisure resort. Hundreds of South African soldiers, some flying in by helicopter, swooped on the capital of the territory, which is not recognised as independent by anybody except Pretoria, after the pre-dawn coup by the local armed forces. The South African soldiers, ranged government installations in the capital Mmabatho, a town of 10,000 residents, while rebel Bophuthatswana troops were being disarmed (See earlier story on page 8).

## Their Majesties begin state visit to Austria King calls for Austrian role in efforts for peace

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

VIENNA — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday called on Austria to contribute to efforts for convening an international conference on the Middle East and play a constructive role in endeavours to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 on the Iran-Iraq war.

Speaking at a banquet hosted by Austrian President Kurt Waldheim on the first day of a state visit to Austria, the King paid tribute to Austria's neutrality in the international scene and praised Waldheim for his valuable services for justice and Arab cause during his tenure as U.N. secretary general. In a reply speech, Waldheim referred to the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and said Austria fully "understands the sense of frustration and helplessness of the people in the occupied territories." He said Austria supported the call for an international conference on the Middle East. "The convening of the extraordinary summit of the heads of

## Sweden, Norway try to end UNRWA kidnap deadlock

SIDON (Agencies) — Diplomats from Sweden and Norway arrived in the southern Lebanese port of Sidon Wednesday to try to break a deadlock in negotiations to free two kidnapped Scandinavian U.N. relief workers. The diplomats went immediately to the house of Mustapha Saad, leader of the Popular Liberation Army (PLA) militia which controls Sidon. Saad has been meeting Palestinian officials to secure the release of Jan Sterling, 44, a Swede, and William Joergensen, 57, a Norwegian, of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which cares for Palestinian refugees. Norwegian Charge d'Affaires Peter Raeder told reporters at Saad's house their visit aimed at reviving negotiations but added: "We would rather not say anything more until the results of the efforts are more clear."

Raeder, accompanied by Seneqar Steffertjberg, Sweden's ambassador to Lebanon, said in Beirut earlier that the talks appeared to have stalled. "There seems to have been a break in the negotiations," he said. "We hope that this is a temporary break and that the parties involved will get together and restart negotiations."

Schools, shops and businesses were closed in Sidon's refugee camps of Ain Al Hilweh and Mieh Mieh as well as the Rashidiyeh, Al Buss and Bourj Al Shimali shantytowns in Lebanon's southernmost port of Tyre. The strike was called by the local committees that run the day-to-day affairs of the estimated 130,000 refugees of the five camps, who stayed indoors.

**Girl kidnapped**  
In Beirut, gunmen kidnapped Wednesday the daughter of a wealthy Christian businessman. A police spokesman said Roula Freij, 16, was being driven to school at 8:45 a.m. (0645 GMT) when the car she was riding in was intercepted by two gunmen off the busy Hamra commercial thoroughfare.

The gunmen dragged Freij out of her family's chauffeur-driven car, forced her into their green Mercedes-Benz automobile and sped away, said the spokesman who could not be identified in line with standing regulations. "We believe this is a kidnapping for ransom," he added. Freij is the granddaughter of Atallah Freij, a wealthy Christian businessman.

Several members of the Freij family refused to comment on the kidnapping.

**Vorontsov, Pakistani officials discuss Afghan prospects**  
ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov began talks Wednesday with senior Pakistani officials on the quickening Afghan peace process.

No official word on the talks was immediately available but it was expected that he would follow Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's announcement Monday on a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Gorbachev said the force could leave in 10 months — a cut of two months in the Soviet position — beginning on May 15 if agreement at peace talks in Geneva was signed by mid-March.

A spokesman for Pakistan's Foreign Ministry said Vorontsov met with Zain Noorani, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Abdul Sattar, the Foreign Ministry secretary. Details of their talks were not disclosed.

Informed Pakistani government sources said Vorontsov, who arrived earlier in the day, was on a "flexible schedule" to allow him to discuss the sudden momentum toward an agreement ending the Soviet Union's eight-year involvement in the Afghan conflict. Official Soviet media ques-

that Austria followed after the signing of the state treaty in 1955. We admire your neutrality which contributes to the causes of peace, liberty and the dignity of man. It is in recognition of the role which Austria has chosen to perform that your country has become the host to numerous organisations engaged in efforts to promote peace, co-operation and international welfare.

"You and your country have always focused constructive attention on our area's problems. We appreciate your position and value your concern. We also appreciate Austria's keenness to strengthen its co-operation with the Arab World and its sympathy with our legitimate causes. Like Austria, Jordan sought to impress the need to respect international law and the principles of the United Nations as the basis for establishing regional peace. Within this context we contributed to the search for just and peaceful solutions to the two major conflicts affecting our area — the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iran-Iraq war.

"As far as the Arab-Israeli conflict is concerned, we have called for the convening of an international conference for peace in the (Continued on page 3)

## U.S. to close PLO mission at U.N.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Edwin Meese has decided to close the Palestine Liberation Organization's (PLO) U.N. observer mission in New York despite reservations by the State Department, congressional and other sources said Wednesday. Meese concluded legislation adopted by Congress last December should be binding even though the status of the mission under international law was ambiguous, said the sources.

Meese, who is recently in Spain, had planned to announce the decision Friday or early next week, the sources said. They told the Associated Press that Meese had come down on the side of Congress.

The sources said Abraham D. Sofaer, the legal adviser at the State Department, had raised concerns about the impact such a closure would have. The PLO's information office in Washington was ordered closed last year by the department. The House of Representatives by a 365-49 vote and the Senate by overwhelming voice vote, insisted on closing the mission in New York as well.

The new U.S. decision puts the United States on a collision course with the U.N., diplomats said Wednesday.

"Oh, my God," said Cypriot Ambassador Constantine Moushinas, chairman of the committee on relations with the host country, when he learned of the decision. "I cannot say this is good news. I believe that any attempt to expel the PLO will be opposed by the membership of the United Nations."

One diplomat said the PLO would have overwhelming support.

"My prediction is that everywhere they go, they will find support on this issue," said the diplomat.

PLO officials have said they may ask the 159-nation General Assembly to reconvene. The assembly usually meets only September through December.

PLO officials were not immediately available for comment. The office of the U.N. secretary-general was expected to issue a statement later Wednesday.

The assembly already has passed a resolution asking the United States to refrain from trying to close the PLO office.

U.N. officials are expected to demand binding arbitration of the dispute under the 1947 headquarters agreement. The United Nations has said the agreement obliges the United States to leave the PLO mission alone.

## 'Ship of return' delayed

From Lamis K. Andoni in Athens

THE DEPARTURE of the "ship of return" carrying expelled Palestinians back to their homeland was delayed Wednesday, but the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) vowed that the voyage would go ahead but said details of the trip were being kept a closely-guarded secret.

Bassam Abu Sharif, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's chief press advisor, told a press conference here Wednesday that Israel was "waging an open and a secret war" to block the voyage.

Abu Sharif said Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir as well as Foreign Minister Shimon Peres had asked the Greek government to stop the ship from sailing but Athens had refused.

The PLO spokesman said Israel had also resorted to "many means, including direct threats against the life of the captain and crew" of whichever ship carried the Palestinians on the symbolic journey.

"Please do not ask questions which touch upon security matters," Abu Sharif told journalists gathered here to cover the voyage aboard the vessel when asked to reveal details of the planned trip.

The PLO office here distributed a list containing the names of 135 Palestinians expected to be aboard the "ship of return." They will be accompanied by hundreds of observers and journalists. "The boat will sail according to the programme," Abu Sharif said without disclosing any details about the ship, its nationality or the time of departure.

"We do not like to give gifts to Shamir and Peres," he said. "There is a real war going on, a secret one and an open one," he said. "The Israeli secret war... has diverse ways and methods, one of which for example is threatening captains and owners they would kill them and their children," Abu Sharif said.

Agencies add: Palestinian deportees, ranging from taxi drivers to businessmen and clerics, milled about several Athens hotels Wednesday waiting for word of the voyage.

Several of them appeared with Abu Sharif at the news conference, held in a jammed hotel banquet room.

"I came to participate with the Palestinians who are going on this trip as an expression of solidarity with those who suffer," said French Monsignor Jacques Gaillet.

Archbishop Hilarion Capucci said he was going because he was a pastor whose flock are Palestinians.

Small girls wearing Arab knifed headscarves around their necks were pushed past the crush of cameramen to present olive branches to the two churchmen.

## Shultz seeks compromise on Senate INF dispute

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has signed a letter essentially accepting Senate Democrats' demands for assurances on the interpretation of the U.S.-Soviet treaty banning medium-range nuclear missiles, the Washington Post said Wednesday.

It said Shultz's letter pledges that Senate testimony of Reagan administration officials on the meaning of the treaty will be binding and that the Reagan administration will not later change its interpretation of the meaning.

Senate approval of the intermediate-range nuclear force (INF) treaty is required for U.S. ratification.

Senate Democratic leaders, including majority leader Robert Byrd, had demanded the pledge in Shultz's letter because of a dispute over interpretation of the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty.

The Democrats contend that the ABM Treaty should restrict President Reagan's strategic de-



Israeli soldiers 'arrest' a Palestinian girl in the West Bank.

## Death and casualty toll mounts in continuing Palestinian revolt

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian died Wednesday of gunshot wounds sustained in clashes with the Israeli army last month, hospital officials said, and three other Arabs were shot and wounded, believed to be by Israeli settlers and Israeli soldiers.

The Israeli army, meanwhile, lifted curfews that had confined 212,000 Arabs to their homes for up to 10 days.

Imad Mahmoud Al Hamlawi, 22, of the Gaza Strip refugee camp Maghazi died Wednesday at Soroka hospital in Beersheba, said a hospital spokeswoman.

She said Hamlawi was brought to the hospital Jan. 9 with gunshot wounds in the spine.

His death brings to 53 the number of Arabs killed at the hands of Israelis since the ongoing Palestinian uprising began Dec. 8, according to U.N.

figures. Most casualties were caused by army gunfire. A 13-year-old boy in Gaza was shot and wounded in the right shoulder Wednesday, and he told the AP the shots were fired by Israeli settlers travelling in a white gasoline tanker.

"I was sitting at a lunch stand eating a sandwich," Suleiman Al Suwezi of Gaza City told AP reporter Mary Sedor from his hospital bed at Ahli Hospital.

He said he saw the truck driving by with two Israelis inside and then "I heard a shot. They fired while the truck was moving."

In the teeming Shaafi refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, troops opened fire to disperse some 200 stone-throwing Palestinians, wounding two in the legs, witnesses told Reuters.

Israeli sources said troops also shot and wounded two Palestinians in the legs in the West Bank

city of Nablus, where a nine-day curfew was lifted Wednesday. The occupation authorities lifted curfews on about 212,000 residents of the West Bank Wednesday but nearly 80,000 remained under curfew in the towns of Qalkilya and Tulkarem and several villages.

Police disclosed that they discovered a printshop in the village of Issawiya producing leaflets signed by "Underground leaders of the Palestinian uprising," seized 25,000 leaflets and arrested the workers.

Arabs threw stones and burned tyres in the Silwan and Al Tur villages in Arab Jerusalem and damaged an Israeli bus in the main Arab shopping street in the city centre. Police said they had (Continued on page 3)

Israeli brutality against Arabs, page 2

## New American plan calls for 'international meeting' in April

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel revealed details of a new U.S. Middle East peace plan Wednesday and said its first stage involved an international meeting in April as a preface to direct Arab-Israeli talks.

The meeting would be followed by about six months of talks on an interim agreement for Palestinian "self-rule" in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, an Israeli official told reporters.

Negotiations on a permanent settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict would start at the end of this year regardless of the progress of talks on the interim solution, he said.

Before the "international opening," American mediators would help formulate in the coming weeks an agenda and a series of agreed principles on future peace moves, the official said.

"The idea is to neutralise all sorts of objections to the international opening and other parts of the plan," said the official, who declined to be identified.

Right-wing Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir rejects an international conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict, while Foreign Minister Shimon Peres accepts such a forum as an opening to direct peace talks with the Arabs.

The Israeli official gave foreign correspondents partial details of the American plan after U.S. envoy Richard Murphy held separate meetings with Shamir and Peres Tuesday night and Wednesday morning.

Peres told reporters after his meeting that the plan's success hinged on talks between U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet leaders in Moscow later this month.

Murphy is on the last leg of a four-nation Middle East tour to offer a U.S. initiative prompted by two months of Palestinian protests in the Israeli-occupied territories in which some 53 Palestinians have died.

"Apparently, the secretary will go to Moscow and try to intro-

duce his ideas to them and then I believe a more serious second stage will start if things go right. This may happen by the end of this month," Peres said after meeting the U.S. envoy.

The Israeli leaders said a visit to the Middle East by Shultz afterwards was "a possibility... but not yet a final decision."

Diplomats said the U.S. initiative stood little chance of success without the acquiescence of the Soviet Union.

Israeli sources quoted by Reuters said Shamir raised a barrage of questions about U.S. ideas for Palestinian "self-rule," including rapid local elections in the occupied territories, at his meeting with Murphy.

Israeli officials said the U.S. proposed a shorter interim period of limited "self-rule" than the five years envisaged in the 1978 Camp David accords between Israel and Egypt.

Murphy made no statement after his talks with Peres. After (Continued on page 4)

## Ozal calls on Papandreou to follow up Davos talks

ATHENS (Agencies) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal has called in a letter to Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou for an active follow-up to their decision last month to improve relations between the two countries.

Ozal's letter, delivered to Papandreou Tuesday by visiting Turkish Deputy Foreign Minister Nuzhet Kandemir, was made public by the Greek government Wednesday.

Referring to his meeting last month with Papandreou at Davos, Switzerland, Ozal said: "This positive development does indeed underline the sentiments and aspirations of our respective peoples for the establishment of close friendship and purposeful cooperation."

"Fulfilling these expectations renders our joint mission all the more noble and important." "I am sure your excellency will agree with me that it is now incumbent on us to follow up actively the positive results we successfully reached in Davos," he said.

Ozal said increased contacts be-

tween Greek and Turkish officials, businessmen and journalists had already begun.

Papandreou said Tuesday Greece may sign a 1963 European Community (EC) decree recognising Turkey as an EC associate.

Papandreou told his ruling Pasok Party parliamentary group Athens could sign the union decree if Ankara cleared up property rights of 12,000 Greeks who left or were forced to leave Istanbul in 1964.

"We could sign the union when the property issue of Greeks in Constantinople (Istanbul) is resolved satisfactorily," Papandreou said.

The Turkish government lifted a 1964 decree last week freezing property rights on about 10,000 Greek houses, apartments or plots of land but has not said whether its decision will be retroactive, as demanded by Greece.

"The meaning of the decree's lifting is of great importance," Papandreou said.

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## Swollen lips, broken limbs describe Israeli brutality in occupied territories

**Photographers protest**

Fifty Israeli photographers are showing their works at an exhibit to protest against the army's "iron fist" policy in the occupied territories and its effect on the soldiers who carry it out.

Hundreds of people packed a Tel Aviv gallery for the opening Tuesday of the exhibition to support demands that the army stop beating, tearing and shooting Palestinians.

"We want to demonstrate that Israelis are not all behind the government's policy," said exhibition organizer Joshua Glotman. "There isn't any consensus about the territories in Israel."

"We didn't get together like this over the Lebanon war," he said.

The deaths of more than 650 soldiers during the 1982 invasion and three-year occupation of Lebanon has fostered an anti-war movement in Israel, local analysts

The works, one from each artist, range from photo-journalism of violence in the Gaza Strip to art photography incorporating graphic designs and blurred im-

A smiling Palestinian youth, photographed by Yossi Aloni, sits on the ground with blood running from his cheek and

"We photographers, citizens of Israel, confronted by daily reality

and the desire to deal with it, see a great danger in the moral erosion resulting from the iron fist policy," they said in a statement.

"Putting clubs into the hands of our young men weakens their

## Occupied lands

Klibi expressed hope that the

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS

WORLD PHONE NOS.

## EMERGENCIES

## GENERAL

Amman governorate	891228
Amman Civil Defence	198, 199
Civil Defence 1st Aid	271293, 273151
Civil Defence Qurtubah	77073
Civil Defence 2nd Aila	57306
Ambulance	193, 775111
Amman downtown fire brigade	198
Fire aid	630341
Blood Bank	778303
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Fire headquarters	629030-3
Police rescue	192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters	779141
Traffic police	8963901
Electric Power Co.	636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints	7712538
Queen Aila Int. Airport	(08)533060

Jordan Television	77311/19
Ministry of Tourism	77411/19
Hotel complaints	666412
Price complaints	661176
Telephone information	12
Jordan and Middle East calls	10
Overseas calls	17
Repair service	11

## NIGHT DUTY

<b>AMMAN:</b>	
Dr. Awil Hawande	777665
Dr. Yousef Rasheed	896301
Dr. Munir Qasbi	898101
Adel Asmani	821148
Firas pharmacy	661912
Ferdows pharmacy	778336
Al Asena pharmacy	637055
Natrukuh pharmacy	623672
Al Salum pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shumciani pharmacy	637660

<b>TAXIS:</b>	
Al Walidha taxi	641833
Khalidoun taxi	664888
Bassam taxi	811857
Ahli taxi	621127
Al-Hadi taxi	617411
Bafsamah taxi	854130
Bahrain taxi	770304
Jemmazi taxi	896740

<b>IRBID:</b>	
Dr. Atallah Naser	(-)
Sharsa's pharmacy	273825

<b>ZARQA:</b>	
Dr. Khalid Abu Hassan	983000
Khalilfah pharmacy	985417

## MARKET PRICES

### Upper/low price in fils per kg.

Apple (French)	420 / 360
Apple (green)	470 / 400
Banana	330 / 300
Banana (Mukannar)	300 / 240
Bell	440 / 440
Beans (red)	340 / 280
Cabbage	130 / 100
Carrot (black)	220 / 160
Carrot (yellow)	220 / 160
Cauliflower	120 / 120
Cucumbers	240 / 800
Eggs (box)	820 / 800
Eggplant (large)	80 / 50
Garlic	230 / 180

Geppetrut	130 / 100
Lemon	130 / 100
Meadarin	180 / 120
Marrow	150 / 120
Onion (green)	120 / 80
Onion (dry)	220 / 180
Oranges (Abu surra)	300 / 250
Oranges (Shumciani)	280 / 220
Pepper (hot)	450 / 400
Pepper (sweet)	320 / 280
Potato	130 / 100
Radish	80 / 50
Spinach	140 / 100
Tomatoes	80 / 50
Turnip	140 / 100

09:30	Musc.	Dubai (RJ)
09:30	Musc.	Cairo (RJ)
09:40	Jeddah (RJ)	
09:55	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)	
17:10	Larnaca (RJ)	
18:00	Pazis (RJ)	
18:05	London, Frankfurt (RJ)	
18:15	London, Istanbul (RJ)	
18:45	Bangkok (RJ)	

07:00	Aqaba (RJ)	
11:00	Amsterdam, New York (RJ)	
11:45	Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)	
12:15	Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)	
12:45	Istanbul (RJ)	
13:00	Larnaca (RJ)	
19:35	Kuwait (RJ)	
19:40	Dhahran (RJ)	
20:00	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
20:15	Cairo (RJ)	
20:30	Dubai, Karachi (RJ)	
21:15	Damascus (RJ)	

### OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:20	Sin's (LH)	
12:55	Jeddah (SV)	
13:40	Kuwait (KU)	
14:30	Dubai (EK)	
15:05	Dubai (MS)	
16:00	Abu Dhabi, Larnaca (GF)	
16:35	Athens (OA)	
21:00	Frankfurt (LH)	
00:25	London, Cairo (BA)	

06:25	Amsterdam (KL.M)	
06:30	Cairo (BA)	
18:10	Frankfurt (LH)	
14:40	Baghdad (IA)	
14:40	Jeddah (SV)	
15:00	Kuwait (KU)	
15:03	Dubai (EK)	
15:50	Dubai (EK)	
16:40	Doha, Bahrain (QR)	
17:20	Athens (OA)	

### DEPARTURES

### ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS

### (Terminal 1)

## CDD creates new special rescue force

AMMAN (Petra) — The Civil Defence Department (CDD) has created a new force for conducting rescue operations and fighting fires in tall buildings.

CDD Director-General Lieutenant-General Khaled Tarawneh said the new force would also rescue people from water and

those injured as a result of unusual weather conditions, as well as support all other CDD operations.

The new force, he said, has been provided with the most modern equipment and special vehicles for rescue and fire-fighting operations.

## School teachers, students discuss Palestinian revolt

AMMAN (Petra) — The first period at schools throughout Jordan was devoted Wednesday to discussing the current Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Teachers were instructed by the Ministry of Education to explain to their students the situation in the occupied territories.

Both teachers and students voiced their support for the Palestinians in resisting Israel's

oppression, and paid tribute to efforts spearheaded by Jordan and His Majesty King Hussein to support the Palestinian struggle and for convening an international peace conference.

Also in line with ministry instructions, several schools held art exhibitions, displaying drawings and paintings depicting the Arab-Israeli conflict and the continued struggle of the Palestinian people.

## Ajlouni continues tourism talks with ambassadors

AMMAN (Petra) — Cooperation in tourism between Jordan and France was discussed here Wednesday by Minister of Tourism Zuhair Ajlouni and French Ambassador to Jordan Patrie Leclercq.

They discussed, in particular, organising exhibitions for marketing Jordan's tourist attractions in French cities, sending French tourist groups to the

Kingdom and exchanging expertise in tourism and hotel management.

Ajlouni also met with the Brazilian Ambassador to Jordan Felix Batista De Faria, with whom he discussed the prospects of cooperation in tourism.

Tourism Authority Director Nasri Atallah attended both meetings.

## Sagqaf returns after concluding fruitful trade talks in Riyadh

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary-General Mohammad Sagqaf returned to Amman from Saudi Arabia Wednesday after concluding with Saudi Arabian officials on promoting economic and trade relations.

Sagqaf led Jordan's side to meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Saudi Arabian Economic Committee, which discussed facilitating the transfer of goods and increasing travel between the two countries.

The meeting agreed to enable the newly-founded Saudi-Jordanian industrial-agricultural investment company to sign and exchange documents on beginning operations, and to appoint a board of directors.

On his last day in Saudi Arabia, Sagqaf met with Saudi Minister of Industry and Electricity Abdul Aziz Al Zamel for talks on coordination in energy-related fields, and the role of the new company in promoting Saudi-Jordanian industrial development.

## Zarqa to take measures to halt illegal building

ZARQA (J.T.) — No less than 100,000 people in Zarqa Governorate are living in homes built on state-owned land without proper licenses, according to Zarqa Governor Eid Qataneh.

He said that the local authorities were exerting all efforts to stop illegal building, and would take legal action against the violators.

Qataneh was speaking following Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud Tuesday visit to Zarqa, where he consulted with local officials on the subject.

Qataneh said that the governorate would conduct a general survey of state-owned land in Zarqa before taking steps to deter people from committing further violations.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Former minister passes away

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Wednesday mourned the passing away of Sa'ad Jawdat Al Dajani, who died Wednesday. The late Dajani held several senior government posts, including minister of state for prime ministry affairs.

### Tourism director honoured

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree has conferred Jordanian medals on Tourism Authority Director Nasri Atallah and other members of the authority in recognition of their efforts to promote tourism in the Kingdom and their services during the November Arab summit in Amman. Another Royal Decree conferred Al Kawkab Medal of the Second Order on Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Director-General Mohammad Sa'ad Arafah and a number of his department staff in recognition of their services to the country.

### Cabinet names new passports chief

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Wednesday announced the appointment of Issa Al Omari as director general of the Passports and Civil Registration Department. The Cabinet also announced that Passports Department Acting Director Radwan Al Qasem and Adnan Mirza, who served as director of the Civil Registration Department, will be retired on pension as of Feb. 16, 1988. The Cabinet also retired Abdul Ra'ouf Abidin and Dr. Salem Kiswani, who served as advisors at the prime minister's office.

### Tabbaa' reviews trade ties with envoys

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Hamdi Al Tabbaa' Wednesday discussed in separate meetings with Indian Ambassador to Jordan Gurcharan Singh and Hungarian Charge d'Affaires Laszlo Nemere bilateral trade and economic relations. Also Wednesday Tabbaa' reviewed with Australian Ambassador to Jordan Terence Goggin a joint trade agreement which will be signed by Australia's foreign minister on Feb. 14. The agreement is aimed at activating trade and economic cooperation.

### Jordan, Syria discuss health protocol

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh met here Wednesday with his Syrian counterpart, Dr. Mohammad Shatti, for talks on expanding the 15-year-old health cooperation protocol between the two countries. Hamzeh also briefed Shatti on Jordan's primary health care field programmes.

### Hmoud opens fruit-packing factory

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Hmoud opened Wednesday a factory for packing citrus fruit and vegetables at Jweideh. The factory, set up by the private sector, has an overall productive rate of 15 tonnes per hour.



Sharif Zaid meets Soviet artillery commander. Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid the Shaker conferred in his office Wednesday with the commander of artillery corps in the Soviet armed forces, Lieutenant-General V. Mikhalkin. The meeting at the Army Headquarters in Amman was attended by Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant-General Fathi Abu

Taleb. Mikhalkin arrived here Wednesday morning at the head of a Soviet military delegation on a visit to Jordan expected to last several days. He will tour a number of military positions and archaeological sites in the country. Upon his arrival, Mikhalkin was welcomed by Lt.-Gen. Abu Taleb and other senior army officers (Petra photo)

## Arab economists express concern over barriers to economic development

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the Jordanian Economists Association returned to Amman Wednesday after taking part in a three-day meeting of the Arab Economists Federation (AEF) held in Kuwait.

The meeting's discussions focused on its title subject, "Contemporary Economic Problems and the Future of Arab Development," and addressed other issues related to agricultural, industrial and demographic development in the Arab World. In addition, the meeting tackled Arab countries' debts, raw materials produced in Arab countries and joint Arab economic action.

The delegation, led by Director of the General Audit Bureau Dr.

Hashem Dabbas, submitted a working paper on the Arab development process, including an evaluation of the Arab boycott of Israeli goods.

A statement issued at the end of the meeting in Kuwait dealt with the challenges to Arab economic development, particularly the economically-taxing Iran-Iraq war. The war in the Gulf, the statement said, has disrupted all efforts to promote the Arab economy, apart from causing huge human losses. The statement urged all nations to work towards implementing U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 for ending the war.

The statement also referred to the Arab-Israeli conflict which, it

said, continues to pose serious threat to Arab economic development programmes. It appealed to international organisations to pressure Israel to cease its oppression of the Palestinians, and to support the Palestinian uprising.

The statement also expressed concern over the increasing Arab debts and the food crisis in the Arab World.

In particular, it also stated concern over protectionist policies adopted by a number of Arab countries which, it said, would negatively affect overall development.

The meeting called on Arab states to intensify their efforts to develop industry.

## Jordan continues to expand, upgrade higher education

KARAK (J.T.) — The four Jordanian universities are now providing higher education to 28,000 students, and the country's 57 community colleges are educating no less than 40,000 others, Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad said here Tuesday evening.

In a lecture to Mu'ta University students, the minister noted that the total number of students acquiring higher education here and abroad now stands at 100,000. He said Jordan was third in the world, after the United States and Sweden, in the total number of students acquiring higher education (in proportion to the population).

The Ministry of Higher Education did not intend to limit on the number of people seeking social or theoretical studies because, Assad said, every person has the right to increase his or her knowledge.

However, he said that the ministry sought to direct more students to study engineering and medicine, so as to meet the demands of the local labour market.



Nassereddin Al Assad society's needs, and to assist in national development schemes.

The ministry, he added, seeks to expand university education in Jordan and improve its quality at the same time. For this reason, it has issued special regulations to community colleges to upgrade their standards and programmes, in order to link their courses with those at Jordanian universities, according to Assad.

The Ministry of Higher Education plans to open next year its own community college, offering four-year courses in teacher training. The teachers who graduate from the college will then be employed at the Ministry of Education schools, Assad noted.

On Jan. 21, the minister announced that plans were underway for the establishment of a private university in Zarqa, and that the ministry of higher education would provide assistance in its creation.

Assad also said that the Council of Higher Education, which supervises the work of higher educational institutions in Jordan, received three new applications for the establishment of the private university.

## Canadian parliamentarians arrive today

AMMAN (J.T. and Petra) — A seven-member Canadian parliamentary delegation is due here today on the first leg of a Middle East tour, which also includes visits to the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

During the visit to Jordan, the delegation will hold talks with officials and parliament members on the situation in the occupied territories and on projects that are being executed with Canadian assistance.

The delegation will also tour Palestinian refugee camps, and look into the activities and opera-

tions of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA). The Canadian delegation, which represents all three federal political parties and both houses of parliament in Canada, will also visit Egypt and Tunisia in the course of their tour.

A second Canadian parliamentary delegation, due here Saturday, will also visit the occupied territories. The seven-member group represents the Canada-Arab World Parliamentary Association.

Senator George Van Roggen, who is member of this delegation,

three years ago chaired a committee that produced a comprehensive study on Canada's relations with the countries of the Middle East and North Africa.

Canada Arab World Parliamentary Association is a body of about 55 Canadian parliamentarians who actively pursue the task of promoting better understanding between Canada and the Arab World. The association sent a delegation to Jordan and the occupied territories last year.

This team will go to the occupied West Bank Sunday and will return to Jordan Wednesday.

## Queen Alia International Airport — the hub of RJ activity

This interview with Royal Jordanian Senior Vice-President for Airport Services Akel Biltaji is reprinted from Royal Jordanian News (RJ News).

RJNews at the hub of the action — Queen Alia International Airport (QAIA). Few little words that cover the operational side of RJ from the heart of the network. In and out traffic, security, passenger services, all provided for RJ and 22 other carriers daily. The man behind the airport spoke with us about the daily activities, headaches and challenges that our airport services demand.

Question: — How do you define a hub?

Answer: — It's best defined as a service station centrally located, allowing free access in out to all directions, with enough facilities for the passenger to be well served and enjoy his or her transit period.

Q. And how does QAIA serve our network?

A. It falls in the above definition; simply defined, it's our home base where services for the airline and its passengers are available in abundance. In comparison with various airports in the area, it's centrally located, has free access, no rigid passenger controls for visa or entry.

We have one big advantage in that it is centrally located in terms of time and distance to a great number of destinations that either complement or are part of the first leg of any trip in the Arab World region.

Like other major hubs in the area (Bahrain and Dubai), we are the only ones to come close to the U.S. or European definition of 'hub'. Looking at Amsterdam, Singapore, Hong Kong and

others on the international network, the peak hours and service needs are still there.

Q. What are the peak hours at QAIA?

A. I like to call them bills and valley concept; they run from: 09:00-13:30 and 16:30-21:00 daily, 7 days weekly. By the way, we should mention here that defining hub activities and time requirements, we should not hide our interest in 6th freedom traffic planning.

Q. Would you expand on that?

A. Flights are planned in such a manner that they arrive/depart with passengers connecting and transiting to the rest of our network and with general sales patterns in mind. This is central to our planning.

Q. How do these two relate?

A. One of the major prerequisites of 'hub' services is to have an airline disposed to the concept building out of it. RJ has played that sort of role for a number of years, and a good 40% of total traffic is involved in changing aircraft and all other transit services here.

As well, for an airline to qualify, it must also be recognised for reliability, schedules and a multinational flavour — all combined with good airport services.

QAIA combines all of these aspects — spacious transit lounges, a diversified duty free shop, good restaurant facilities. We also have a hotel, a maintenance base, and an adequate and well-trained staff. These are all components of a successful hub formula.

Q. What is RJ actually responsible for in the airport?

A. RJ directly controls all activities central to the preparation and dispatch of an aircraft. By law, we are the handling agent at the



Akel Biltaji airport for all terminal and ramp services.

What the passenger generally sees or is aware of are baggage handling, checking and departure tax payments. There are a million steps and services inbetween that the passenger never sees or feels. Non-RJ procedures are security, immigration, and customs.

Q. And how many employees are there at the airport?

A. Between managers, engineers, agents, porters, drivers, loaders and so on, we have about 3,000 staff and over 1,000 government staff employed here, all working on serving our entire fleet and 22 other carriers coming in and out daily.

Out of these employees, about 450 or so work in the terminals and are involved in passenger services.

Q. How is the airport layout helpful in fulfilling the hub requirements?

A. Like any other airport in the world, sometimes, it doesn't work as a hub centre. There are constraints in movements as we have realised over a period of time.

## King calls for Austrian role in efforts for peace in Mideast and Gulf

(Continued from page 1)

Middle East, at the invitation of the secretary general of the United Nations and under the auspices of the five permanent members of the Security Council, with the participation of all the parties to the conflict.

"The Arab leaders reaffirmed, in their summit of last November in Amman, their precepts for the attainment of a just peace in accordance with international law. They emphasised the necessity of convening the international conference as the only means of attaining the desired peace. We look to the Republic of Austria to make its contribution for the success of efforts for the establishment of peace, based on international law.

"The Iranian regime has persisted in continuing this war against the land and people of Iraq. The war has entered its eighth year and has caused a massive loss of human life as well as material destruction. It is a continuous threat to the stability and security of the entire region and the world.

"The Iranian government not only rejected all regional and international efforts aimed at attaining peace and justice, but also escalated its aggression to include acts of subversion against Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Iraq has responded positively to all constructive efforts aimed at putting an end to the fighting and the attainment of peace. Iraq accepted all the peace initiatives that were proposed by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, the Non-Aligned Movement, and the United Nations. The latest of these was Security Council Resolution 598 that was adopted unanimously.

"We are confident that Austria will play a constructive role to help implement the resolution and cause Iran to comply with international law.

"Before concluding, I would like to express our satisfaction over the growing bilateral relations between our two countries. We note their expansion in various fields since the conclusion of the 1977 agreement on economic, industrial and technical co-

operation. We look forward to this continued co-operation, particularly in the commercial field, where we hope that the balance of trade between Austria and Jordan will become more equitable for our mutual benefit."

In his reply speech, Waldheim said:

"I have the satisfaction of receiving in you not only the eminent head of state of a friendly country that plays a most important role in its region as well as in the concert of nations but also a distinguished and trusted friend of long standing.

Your Majesty, turning to our bilateral relation I have little to add to what I have said in my speech during my visit in Amman. Our relations are very good indeed, constructive and based on mutual friendship and sympathy. There are of course many areas which have not been explored fully or which threaten to fall back if we do not increase and trade relations, which have to be looked at with a fresh view."

King Hussein, accompanied by Her Majesty Queen Noor, arrived here earlier Wednesday on a several-day official visit to Austria.

Soon after his arrival, the King held a round of talks with Waldheim, on bilateral relations, and issues of common concern, including the Middle East issue and the situation in the Gulf, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The talks were attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

Their Majesties were greeted at Vienna's Schwechat airport by Waldheim, Chancellor Franz Vranitzky and Vice Chancellor Alois Mock.

Their Majesties declined an invitation to attend an opera ball in Vienna Thursday. A statement issued by the Royal Couple said their Majesties did not consider it appropriate to attend the ball because of the "unspeakable suffering of the Arabs in the occupied territories."

## Third airbus joins RJ fleet

AMMAN (J.T.) — Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national air carrier, Wednesday took delivery of a third A310-300 Airbus passenger jet under a 10-year lease.

The 260-passenger plane will join RJ's fleet, flying European and Gulf routes, according to RJ officials.

The new aircraft flew to Amman's Queen Alia International Airport directly from Toulouse, France in accordance with the leasing agreement reached with a Paris-based firm created by a

consortium of 37 European banks financing the deal.

Earlier, RJ received two Airbus planes; and, according to the officials, two more Airbus planes are due here next year, and a third in 1990, thus raising to six the total number of Airbus planes to be operated by RJ, in accordance with the terms of lease.

RJ's fleet also includes Tristar and Boeing 747 planes, which, according to the officials, will be used for the Far East and Trans-Atlantic routes.

## Palestinian revolt continues

(Continued from page 1)

arrested 25 Palestinians in the last 48 hours.

The daily Hadashot reported Tuesday that a group of soldiers and one settler from Elon Moreh beat four Palestinians from the village of Salem north of Jerusalem and then used a tractor to dump dirt on them.

"They ordered us to lie with our faces to the ground and two soldiers stepped on our backs so we wouldn't move," the newspaper quoted one of the four, Abdul Majid Hamdan, as saying.

"I heard the officer, I think his name was Charlie, tell the tractor driver: 'Let's go, move on them!'"

The Palestine Press Service (PPS) reported four separate incidents in which Jewish settlers smashed car windows or damaged houses in the West Bank Monday and Tuesday.

Police said they were investigating a resident of the Jewish West Bank settlement Kedumim in the shooting death of a 25-year-old Arab Monday.

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# School crisis in Arab sector in Israel

The following article is reprinted from the magazine, *Tammya*. The magazine is published by the Geneva-based The Welfare Association, a philanthropic foundation established in 1983.

FOR PALESTINIAN Arabs in Israel, the 1987-88 school year began with a one-day strike as nearly 230,000 Arab pupils protested difficult conditions affecting all aspects of school life — buildings, facilities and staff.

The Arab local councils in Israel also shut down for the day September 1 as part of the protest, having declared 1987 the "Year of Arab Education". Two one-day strikes had also been organised in May, but little has been done to improve conditions at Arab schools, which operate under the constant threat of further cuts in the education budget.

The budgetary constraints on the municipal councils are such that, as the head of the Qalanswa Council once put it, the municipality was unable even to provide chalk for school blackboards. The local councils have been pressing for budgets to build 300 school-rooms a year for the next five years.

The September 1987 edition of *Al Hada* newsletter, published by the Association in Umm Al Fahem, estimated immediate needs at 1,400 more classrooms for regular studies — to say nothing of the need for laboratories and other specialised rooms. It said 4,000 more teachers were needed.

The newsletter noted, with some sarcasm, "The Jewish sector was not entirely strike-free on the first day of the school year. Parents in the town of Beit She'an, to the north of the West Bank, kept their schoolchildren away from school to protest the shortage of air conditioners in the classrooms. In our community, we would be grateful for the luxury of classrooms in which to put air conditioners."

## An uphill struggle

Largely through their own efforts, the Palestinians in Israel have slowly improved conditions in the education sector, although these remain far from exemplary. The late Dr. Sami Mari, who was the leading expert on Arab education in Israel, reviewed changes over a 20-year span in an essay in the Arabic cultural magazine *Al Mawakeb*.

For example, assessing the state of functional illiteracy of the Arab population, Dr. Mari noted that this had dropped from 64 per cent in 1961 to 35.8 per cent in 1975 and 30.5 per cent in 1979 (functional illiteracy was calculated on the basis of all those over the age of 14 who had not attended any school at all, in addition to those who had completed four years of education).

The discrimination suffered by Arab pupils was reflected in the fact that there were 31 Arab pupils per class, compared to 26 Jewish pupils at the beginning of this decade. Dr. Mari estimated that in the 1981-82 academic

year, Arab schools had to rent nearly 5,000 classrooms to accommodate their students (compared to 1,000 rented in the Jewish sector).

In the 1970s, the number of new teaching posts opening up each year was decreasing in real terms. The number of posts increased by 3.4 per cent in 1975-76, 2.2 per cent in 1977-78, and 1.9 per cent in 1978-79. The drop-out rate in the Arab sector was alarming: Of 11,990 pupils who started 9th grade in the 1974-75 school year, only 3,827 reached 12th grade (the end of the secondary cycle).

## Community activism

Arab parents and community leaders have become increasingly active in the area of their children's education. Parents' committees are formed on a local level, and the first conference on Arab education was held in 1984 (the first of a series of conferences on conditions in the Arab sector; others included meetings on health and on social conditions). The conference noted the importance of developing educational facilities, and the fact that nearly 30 per cent of the Arab population were students.

A Follow-Up Committee on Education was established by the conference to coordinate action and information-sharing between different localities. Its report last year indicated that little has changed. For instance, the number of lessons in the pupils' week had to be reduced as a result of imposed cuts. Students in the 9th grade in 1985-86 were taught a total of 28 periods, covering all subjects including Arabic language and the sciences.

In addition to the fact that the overall number of teachers was 4,000 too few (the present number is 8,700), the Committee noted that the number of science teachers was especially low, and estimated that at least 1,500 were needed in this area alone. In fact there were fears that proposed budget cuts might lead to the dismissal of 400 teachers.

The Committee estimated that another 2,000 classrooms were needed for laboratories, vocational training and for the special needs of handicapped children, in addition to the basic classrooms needed to replace unsuitable rented accommodation, and to accommodate the growing school population.

The Committee noted that, because of economic and social conditions, nearly 32 per cent of Arab pupils drop out before the end of the preparatory cycle, compared to 4 per cent in the Jewish sector. Only 60 per cent complete the compulsory education cycle, and only 50 per cent complete the secondary cycle, compared to 80 per cent of Jewish pupils. Meanwhile, the matriculation success rate of Arab stu-



Palestinian children in Israel: Bright faces, grim future.



dents is only 30 per cent.

## School tour

How do schools cope with the constraints on building and development of other facilities? Individual cases illustrate the nature of the problem. In Jaffa, for example, there was only one government school and four private schools serving the Arab sector in 1978. The schools were full to capacity, and the private schools had to turn away nearly 200 applicants.

After pressure by parents for a new government school, an old dilapidated building was turned into a school, attached to the Muslim Waqf. The school organises special remedial sessions for poor students, and uses the revenue to organise school trips and other extra-curricular activities like plays.

In Ramleh, the 1986-87 school year began with a three-week strike at the Arab elementary school, when pupils and their parents protested that an agreement signed earlier in the year was not carried out by the municipality.

Under the agreement, the pupils were to be moved from their cramped temporary building to another that had housed a

Jewish school; another former schoolbuilding was to be converted into a sports ground; and suitable premises were to be found for the kindergarten.

The conditions under which the 730 Arab elementary school pupils studied were difficult indeed; the classrooms were distributed over several rented rooms and buildings in the town, many of which were unsuitable as classrooms. Two of the buildings had been damaged by burst water reservoirs and had had to be destroyed, further adding to the shortage of rooms. In the end, the parents' committee petitioned the Supreme Court in an effort to resolve the crisis, with support from the Follow-Up Committee.

Living with danger  
To the north of the country, in the village of Ain Al Sahla which lies below Umm Al Fahm, the parents protested the conditions at their children's elementary school building earlier this year. They said there was real danger that the walls and ceiling would collapse.

After repeated representations by the parents, the authorities responded with a suggestion that the school be shut down and the pupils distributed to the schools

in other villages, with the teachers presumably losing their jobs. The parents rejected this proposal and insisted on a new school building for the 174 pupils.

Last year also saw several protests in Acre, and pupils at the Amal Elementary School were kept away from school at the start of the 1986-87 school year. Parents noted that dangerous conditions at the school building, parts of which dated to Ottoman times.

Indeed, the school had been used as a police post during the Ottoman era, a fact reflected in its forbidding architecture and poor lighting, and was transformed into a school by the British mandate authorities. At one point conditions were so bad that students had to carry umbrellas in the classrooms. Toilets were located outside the school and there was no covered playground to use in the winter months.

In the village of Tireh, in the Triangle, conditions were so bad at the Al Zahra elementary school that 45 to 47 pupils had to be crammed into each class after cuts were imposed in the 1986-87 school year and classes had to be merged. The number of teaching hours had been cut back to 597 from 617. Meanwhile, the village found it difficult to cope with the increase in the number of pre-school children, which rose by 127 compared to 105 the previous year.

In the village of Arraba, an additional floor was built at the school last year to ease classroom congestion, thanks entirely to the efforts of the parents' committee and the community. The community contributed the costs of building, and participated in the actual construction work which was completed within five days.

Indeed, according to the Follow-Up Committee information on the Arab sector as a whole, some 333 classrooms were built over the last five years upon the initiative of local councils, funded entirely from private sources. The government, the Committee said, had built only 383 classrooms over the five years.

First steps for change  
While physical conditions at Arab schools are certainly dismal, perhaps overshadowing the equally important need to upgrade the quality of education offered, the rising level of community involvement is a sign of the determination for change.

The existence of the Follow-Up Committee is an encouraging development. It has organised further conferences and meetings on education, and it assists parents' committees lobbying for better facilities.

Since its formation, the Committee has engaged in an information-gathering exercise to pinpoint actual needs and to underline the discrimination against the Arab sector. So far, it has collected facts and figures from 86 Arab towns and villages, and is feeding the information into computers to arrive at accurate and easily up-dated data to ensure a better future for Palestinian children.

# Computers predict education can help eradicate AIDS

By Jim Fuller

WASHINGTON — Scientists using sophisticated computers have found that a vigorous public education programme could eventually help eradicate the deadly disease AIDS.

Researchers at U.S. laboratories and universities are using supercomputers to develop mathematical models to predict the course of the AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) epidemic and help public health officials plot strategies against the disease.

Carlos Castillo-Chavez, a mathematician at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, said in a telephone interview that a computer model shows that education about the steps each individual can take to avoid acquiring the AIDS virus can have a tremendous impact on the spread of the disease.

"For example, it is quite clear mathematically that if individuals reduce their number of sexual partners, that can strongly influence whether the disease remains or is eradicated," he said. "It is also clear that the use of condoms would reduce transmission of the virus by a great factor."

Castillo-Chavez added that because of the complex course of the disease, in which individuals may remain infectious for many years without symptoms, it could take a long time before the effects of education are seen.

"According to our model, even if the disease is eventually eradicated, it may be decades before the number of infected individuals begins to decrease," he said. "The number of cases could rise tremendously before it starts to decline."

AIDS, transmitted mainly through blood and body fluids during sexual intercourse and the sharing of contaminated needles, disables the body's immune system, leaving it easy prey to certain rare cancers and infections.

Once individuals become infected with the AIDS virus, they remain at risk of developing the disease even though they may be symptom-free for years. Symptomless carriers unknowingly infect others and thus fuel the AIDS epidemic. Researchers estimate that for each reported AIDS case, 50 to 100 people may be infected with the virus.

Castillo-Chavez cautions that the so-called built-in increase in the number of infected people in the short run "raises the possibility that people may misperceive education as a cause of increased promiscuity, rather than as controlling the disease."

Long-term campaigns

"They may see only how slowly the total number of infected individuals decreases, and because of that tendency, in the short run, education may even seem to increase sharply the number of cases of individuals who develop AIDS," he said.

Because it can take the average person infected with the virus up to eight years to develop full-blown AIDS, Castillo-Chavez said, education campaigns must be viewed as long-term. He estimated it will take about 16 years before the number of AIDS cases begins to fall dramatically as a result of education programmes.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, efforts to educate the

population on how to avoid AIDS may already be showing results. The department reported recently that the incidence of new infection among certain population groups may have declined somewhat from the rates in the early 1980s. For example, declines have been noted in certain large homosexual populations, and the rate of AIDS infection no longer appears to be rising among blood donors and military applicants.

The researchers at Cornell hope that their supercomputer models will also help health officials make rational decisions about dealing with AIDS, since many public health decisions are currently made on the basis of very little information.

"We have a mathematical description of the transmission of AIDS," Castillo-Chavez said. "It is possible to identify with this kind of model the most important social groups involved in transmission of the disease."

The researchers are using the computer model to simulate a number of major cities that have been hard-hit by the AIDS epidemic, including New York, Los Angeles, Mexico City and Montreal. According to Castillo-Chavez, each of these cities has different characteristics that could yield insight into the epidemic.

For example, both New York and Los Angeles have large numbers of homosexuals and intravenous drug users, both high-risk groups for AIDS. In Montreal, most AIDS literature is in English, although French is the dominant language, and the schools are dominated by French Catholics who are opposed to sex education.

A door-to-door study  
To gather data on many of these parameters, the researchers are joining with sociologists who will conduct field studies and search the sociological literature and census data.

Data derived from such models should be useful to the U.S. Centres for Disease Control, which plans to initiate a national survey to determine the extent of AIDS infection in the general population. The door-to-door study is not expected to be completed before June 1990. Until then, health officials will have to continue to rely on the reported rates of infection among the military population and blood banks, which researchers warn are underestimated because both groups discourage homosexuals and drug abusers from applying.

Castillo-Chavez also warns that there are dangers in relying too much on mathematical models. "I'm very fearful that the information we obtain might increase racial tension," he said. "The disease is spreading the most among the poor, more of whom are black and Hispanic. But if we try to use our model to help stop the disease, the results might also be used to increase bigotry."

He said mathematical models used to study epidemic diseases can only provide advice and direction and should not be taken as the final answer. The Cornell scientists are collaborating with a research group at Los Alamos National Laboratory, which is exploring alternative approaches such as partnership and risk models to predict the course of the AIDS epidemic.

— U.S. Information Agency.

# For black reporters in South Africa, getting the story is seldom easy

By Greg Myre  
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — In a country where the media faces constant obstacles, no one has it tougher than South Africa's black journalists.

Yet they consistently produce some of the most detailed reporting on the complex situation in this deeply divided country, and play an increasingly prominent role in the anti-apartheid movement.

Several journalists have been among the thousands of black activists detained during a 19-month-old state of emergency. Free-lance journalist Brian Sokutu has been held the entire period without charge.

The government also has threatened to close leading black-oriented newspapers, but they continue to direct harsh criticism at the white authorities.

"Since there are limited outlets for black expression in South Africa, black journalists play a particularly important role in articulating black aspirations and frustrations," said Keith Lister, the white publisher of City Press.

## White-owned

Black journalists make up virtually the entire staff of black-oriented — but white-owned — newspapers such as City Press and The Sowetan. A handful of blacks have prominent editing and writing posts at "white" newspapers like The Star of Johannesburg, the nation's largest daily and a frequent government critic.

However, numerous attempts over the years to establish nationally circulated, black-owned publications have failed, usually for financial reasons.

Until the 1970s, blacks wrote almost exclusively for black publications that focused on the black social scene and sports, and had

little political content.

Only in the past two decades have mass-circulation black publications become overtly political and regularly challenged the white-led government's apartheid policies of racial segregation.

"Our young reporters now consider themselves blacks first and journalists second," said Aggrey Klaaste, editor of the Sowetan. "They see their work as part of the political struggle in South Africa."

Like all South African journalists, black reporters are bound by

"Our young reporters consider themselves blacks first and journalists second. They see their work as part of the political struggle in South Africa."

the extensive press restrictions and state of emergency regulations that limit reporting on unrest, security force actions and a host of politically sensitive matters.

But black journalists face additional difficulties.

Several publications aimed at blacks, including New Nation and The Sowetan, are on the brink of closure for allegedly promoting organisations such as the outlawed African National Congress.

The New Nation, a weekly financed by the Roman Catholic church, appears closest to being shut down. It has challenged the government regulations in court. The Sowetan received an official warning for a story about the ANC condemning "necklacing," a practice by black radicals who set alight a gasoline-soaked tire placed around the neck of a victim, usually a suspected government informer. The government complained that the article placed the ANC in a favourable light.

"It's a no-win situation," said Klaaste. "If we report aggressively, we're going to be closed down."

If we play by the government's rules, we lose credibility in the black community."

"White readers complain that I'm too radical, and black readers say I'm not radical enough," said Jon Qwelane, a reporter and columnist for The Star.

## Journalistic objectivity

Qwelane and others say black reporters bristle when white editors start to talk about traditional journalistic objectivity.

"My house was bulldozed in a

forced removal when I was 10," Qwelane said. "I've been arrested, forced to ride black buses and trains, denied the right to vote. How can I divorce my personal experiences from my reporting? I know what these people are feeling because I'm in the exact same situation."

Many leading black journalists have been detained or arrested. Klaaste and Percy Qoboza, editor of City Press until his death Jan. 17, were held without charge for five months in 1977. Zwickl Sigulu, editor of New Nation, has been detained since December 1986. Qwelane has been arrested several times, and is deaf in his right ear from a severe beating in 1977 by two white men he says were plainclothes policemen.

Some black reporters say their greatest fear is from the black community.

Qwelane says that strictly for concern of his own personal safety, he has not written a column condemning "necklacing."

"I've seen a necklacing and it's the most horrible thing you can imagine," he said. "But if I con-

demned it in print, some groups would say I'm not supporting the struggle. I admit it, I feel intimidated."

In a recent column, Qwelane expressed his public ambivalence toward the issue of violence:

"I am not advocating violence here. If the truth must be told, I am not condemning it, either."

Despite the difficulties they face, black reporters have unique advantages in covering racial turbulence in South Africa. They live in the townships and under the same apartheid laws on which they report. They often speak several African languages and are well known and respected in their communities.

White reporters do not cover the communities on a regular basis.

When white journalists travel to the townships, they sometimes are greeted with suspicion and may face a language barrier.

Despite their allegiance to their readers, black publications often are critical of their own community. Most black newspapers have condemned the black-on-black violence in the southeastern city of Pietermaritzburg, where about 400 people have died since early last year.

Although the size and influence of the black press is growing, few blacks write for publications read by white. Some black journalists say this is the most important audience they need to reach.

Qoboza, in a 1981 article aimed at whites, wrote:

"If you sometimes get mad at me because the sentiments I express keep you awake at night, then I am glad."

"I do not see why I should bear the brunt of insomnia worrying about what will happen tomorrow. If many of us can keep awake at night then maybe we will do the sensible thing. Talk together about our joint future."

School figures, Arab and Jewish sectors		
	Arab	Jewish
Average pupils/school	486	369
Average pupils/class	32	27
Classes with up to 24 pupils (%)	17	36
Classes over 35 pupils (%)	40	27
Students sitting matriculation in theoretical subjects (%)	77	91

Source: Information collected by Follow-Up Committee on Arab Education, printed in *Issues in Arab Education*, June 1987, the bulletin of the Follow-Up Committee and the Regional Committee of Heads of Arab Local Councils.

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## Strength and style head for showdown at Calgary slopes

CALGARY (R) — The beast and the artist, the dominant forces of Alpine skiing, will settle the question of their disputed mountain dominion on the Olympic slopes.

The duel featuring the rugged strength of ebullient Italian Alberto Tomba and the flowing grace of the quiet Swiss Pirmin Zurbriggen promises to be a highlight on Mount Allan.

Tomba la Bomba has blasted aside all world cup rivals in the slalom and giant slalom this season, the big bang presaged by bronze in the giant at last year's world championships.

But the undisputed king at Crans-Montana was Zurbriggen, winner of the giant and super-giant and silver medalist in the downhill and combination.

The addition of a five-title sweep beyond the triples achieved by Austrian Toni Sailer (1956) and France's Jean-Claude Killy (1968).

But Zurbriggen needs no reminding how elusive Olympic fame can be after leaving the 1984 games in Sarajevo without a medal having fallen in the slalom and finished fourth in the downhill.

Zurbriggen replaced Tomba at the top of the overall world cup standings with his second downhill win of the season just before Calgary but the Italian, who takes on his rival in all bar the downhill, is nothing if not confident.

Other downhill candidates include Swiss Daniel Mahrer, Ita-



Pirmin Zurbriggen



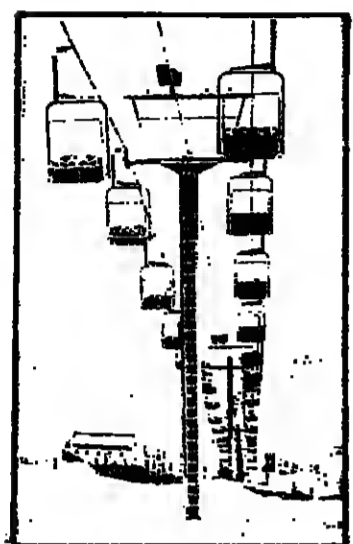
Alberto Tomba

lian Michael Mair and Canadians Rob Boyd and Felix Belczyk.

Veteran Swede Ingemar Stenmark, the most consistent winner in world cup history, and Marc Girardelli, Luxembourg's one-man skiing band, will be competing in the Olympic arena from

which they were banned last time.

Stenmark, slalom and giant slalom gold medalist in 1980 has regained his amateur status but the odds are against a third Olympic title one month short of his 32nd birthday.



## Heiden Olympic story will require rewrite

CALGARY (R) — Eric Heiden owns every Olympic men's speed skating record.

But after the XV Winter Games, the 1980 hero's Olympic story will be sub-titled: "and then there were none."

There is no mystery to what will happen to Heiden's monopoly of the five records — a wrecking crew of specialists operating on the lightning-quick indoor surface at the new \$38.9 million Olympic oval look sure to smash them all.

World champion Nikolai Gulyaev of the Soviet Union is convinced Heiden will be totally eclipsed and said: "I think there will be world records in all five distances."

Seven record times were clocked at a world cup meeting here last December in the cavernous, concrete arena that houses the fastest track in the world.

The best race could come fittingly quickly — in Sunday's opening event, the 500 metres, where a brilliant American duo battle a host of European and Asian contenders.

World record holder Nick Thometz and world sprint champion Dan Jansen give the U.S. team an imposing look.

Olympic champion Sergei Fokitshev of the Soviet Union, Uwe-Jens Mey of East Germany, Akira Kuroiwa of Japan and Ki Tae Bae of South Korea are among an array of genuine pretenders.

Olympic 5,000 metres champion Tomas Gustafson should dominate long distances despite having a new outlook on racing.

The Swede has taken to wearing goggles to keep his contact lenses from flaking off in the cold, dry air.

In women's skating, a pair of East Germans — Karin Kania and Christa Rothenburger — are aiming to pull off a major gold heist.

But American Bonnie Blair, a

## 1988 WINTER OLYMPICS



Karin Kania of East Germany

former 500 metres world record holder, sees it differently.

"The track will favour technical skaters, ones who can handle the fast, tight turns," said Blair, describing her own strengths

evinced by her reign as world short track champion.

"Three medals here are not beyond my capabilities," the perky brunette said with a sparkle in her eye.

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## OLYMPIC BRIEFS

From Calgary, Alberta  
The Associated Press

### Softball decision postponed

A DECISION whether to add women's softball as a medal sport for the 1992 Summer Olympics has been postponed until September, an official said Tuesday. Don Porter, president of the International Softball Federation (ISF), said he had been told that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) would take up the matter at its 94th session in Seoul, prior to the start of the Summer games. Porter said he had hoped to have the issue decided at the IOC's 93rd session, which opened here Monday night. "I'm still optimistic that it will be added, but it's disappointing that the issue won't be resolved for another few months," he said. Softball is being proposed as a women's counterpart to men's baseball, which has been added to the 1992 Olympic medal-sport lineup.

### Wild-west atmosphere

CALGARY's wild-west cowboy atmosphere has infected many Olympic visitors in the last few days, including IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch. At a party Monday night following the opening of the IOC's 93rd session, the normally staid Spaniard showed a different side when he donned a white cowboy hat and then threw it into the crowd with a "yippee." It prompted Steve Woodward, a writer for the USA Today newspaper, to comment that "Juan Antonio turned into Juan San Antonio." San Antonio is a city in Texas, use U.S. cowboy heartland.

### Repairs on cauldron

WORKERS were scurrying Tuesday to make repairs to the Olympic cauldron to ensure it will be ready for the lighting ceremonies Saturday that officially open the Winter Games. Workers had just installed a new metre for the cauldron but failed to properly purge the lines with nitrogen before igniting the torch Monday, said Gordon Lee, a Canadian Western National Gas spokesman. The ensuing buildup of gas led to a blast that destroyed a 4.5-metre shield and caused minor damage to the burner system, but no one was injured. After repairs are made, tests will be conducted before Saturday's ceremonies, said Olympics spokesman Renee Smith. Lee said there would be no danger to the final torch bearer who lights the cauldron to culminate the cross-Canada torch relay.

### Jamaicans capture imagination

THE JAMAICAN bobsled team, which has sprung from nowhere in the last year, has captured the imagination of the Olympic-watching public. The team from the tropical Caribbean island didn't even have snowboots until last November. Now they have been the subject of magazine articles, television profiles and even hot-selling sweatshirts. A reggae-music training song they composed — one of the members sings in a band — was marketed by RCA, with royalties going to the team. On Wednesday, the competitors were to be the guests of honour at a \$10-per-ticket fund-raiser at a Calgary restaurant.

## Men in wire masks hold key to ice hockey gold

CALGARY (R) — The men in the wire masks could hold the key to glory in the Olympic ice hockey tournament.

Crucial saves by some of the game's best goaltenders could provide the difference between the world's top hockey powers.

In Andy Moog and seasonal 18-year-old Sean Burke, host Canada boasts two goalkeepers of outstanding talent capable of turning the tournament with a flash of brilliance.

Sweden will rely heavily on the superb Peter Lindmark but the ever powerful but recently vulnerable Soviet Union are still searching for an heir to the great Vladislav Tretiak, who retired in 1984.

The Soviets have become used to winning over the last three decades but uncertainty over their goaltending position has clearly unsettled the squad.

Sweden are the top seeds here by virtue of their victory over the

Soviets in the world championship last year and coach Tommy Sandlin's team will play in a group that includes their Scandinavian rivals Finland and Canada.

The other six-team group features the Soviets, the U.S. and the strong but inconsistent Czechoslovaks.

Portos-looking Soviet team

The Soviets have become accustomed more to losing than winning in recent months.

Since losing the world championship to Sweden and losing to the Canadians in the Canada Cup, the Izvestia Cup and the World Youth Championship, veteran coach Viktor Tikhonov has drafted in a clutch of untried young players.

Tikhonov has even played psychological games by stating that Canada have the edge and will win the gold in front of their own fans.



**JORDANIAN SKIER HITS RECORD:** A skiing competition was held at Courchevel, France, in January bringing together leading skiers from North America, Australia and several European countries and a Jordanian. Dr. Shukri Shami, a member of the Jordan University of Science and Technology staff, won a silver medal for his record performance of 56.92 seconds in the Giant slalom. Shami has taken an active interest in skiing over the 12 years. But it was the first time he enters an international competition. The 1992 Winter Olympics will be held in Courchevel.

## N. Korea links Olympics to Korean reunification

CALGARY (AP) — A top North Korean sports official said Tuesday that any talks with South Korea about participation in the Summer Olympics must also include the issue of Korean reunification.

Chang Ung, secretary general of the North Korean Olympic Committee, also accused the government and Olympic organisers in Seoul of being the main obstacle to his country's participation.

North Korea announced a boycott when its demand to co-host the Summer Games was rejected. Cuba and Ethiopia also decided to boycott the games in support of North Korea.

In a four-hour interview, Chang said the North has proposed holding preliminary discussions Feb. 19 in Panmunjom to set the stage for meetings between politicians, leading dignitaries and Olympic officials.

He said such direct talks would focus on splitting television rights fees from the Olympics, allowing free access to the North for Olympic athletes, officials and journalists and other technical and logistical questions.

However, he said repeatedly that discussions on the North's involvement in the Summer Games must be part of larger discussions aimed at reunifying the two countries.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has mediated four sets of talks between North and South and has offered to let Pyongyang stage all or parts of five sports during the Summer Games.

Chang said the North still wants to host six full events but the number of sports in any co-host package was no longer the most important point.

"We love the Olympics," said Chang, who is in Calgary with North Korea's six-member team for the Winter Olympics. "But first, we have to consider our nation's fate."

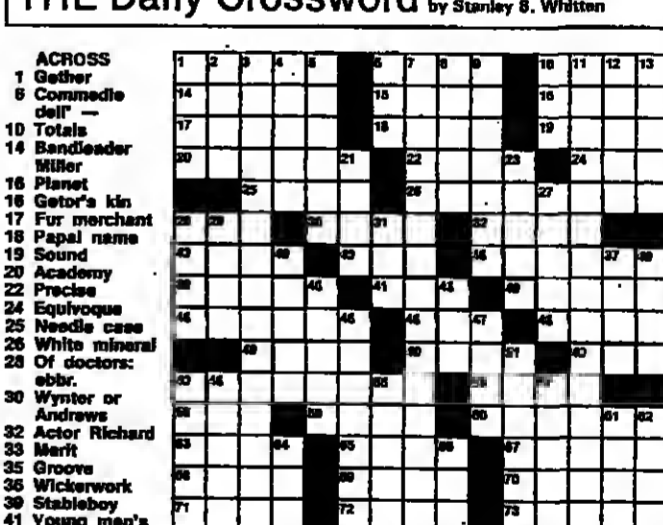
"It is a sign of the unity of Korea. First, we have to protect national interests. If the Olympics should make certain contributions to the reunification of our divided nation, it is OK. But if anything should make some obstacles for the unification of the whole nation, then we cannot agree."

"I hope something comes out good for us," Chang said.

IOC President Juan Samaranch said last week that the IOC was willing to reopen its talks with the North under certain conditions in hopes of getting Pyongyang and two close allies, Cuba and Ethiopia, to the Summer Games.

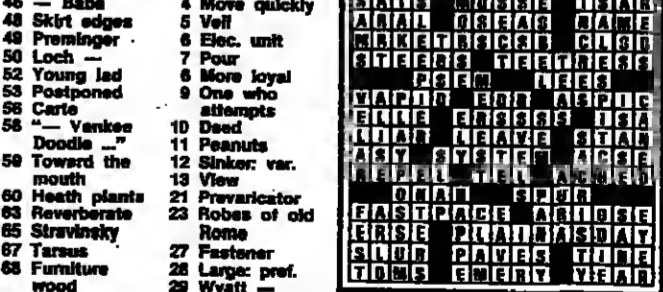
Sources, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the IOC's focus may be shifting from placing some events in the North to getting the North to Seoul as part of a unified Korean team.

## THE Daily Crossword by Stanley S. Whittman



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



1 Down: word  
2 Across: abbr.  
3 Immediately  
4 Move quickly  
5 Veil  
6 Elec. unit  
7 Pour  
8 More loyal  
9 One who attempts  
10 Dead  
11 Peanut  
12 Similar var.  
13 View  
14 Prevaricator  
15 Robes of old  
16 Rome  
17 Tarsus  
18 Fastener  
19 Large prof.  
20 Wyatt  
21 Therefore  
22 Proverbance  
23 Nick of  
24 Rindom  
25 Sullies  
26 Inquisitive  
27 Subway  
28 Pub offering  
29 More regretful  
30 Woe  
31 Woolen blanket  
32 Food regimens  
33 Man with a mite  
34 High tidal wave  
35 Tiger  
36 Chow  
37 Ooze  
38 Turk  
39 weight  
40 Decay

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- also to travel throughout Jordan with overnight stay if needed.

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## THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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Teacher of English as a Foreign Language to cover the age range 5 - 13 years. Applicants must hold a formal TESL/TEFL qualification and preferably have some experience of teaching younger children.

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Application forms are available from the School Secretary, Telephone 841070.

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## PLAZA

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Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

## 5,099 delinquent phone subscribers owe TCC JD 1m

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) has cut telephone lines of 5,099 subscribers last month for their failure to pay accumulated dues over the first nine months of 1987. TCC Director General Mohammad Shahed Ismail was quoted as saying to Al Ra'i newspaper.

Ismail said that the total amount required from those subscribers, who had been issued

warnings by the TCC for their delay before the cut was made, amounted to JD 1.028 million.

So far, he said, only 2,075 subscribers paid their dues and had their lines re-connected.

Ismail said that new instructions have been issued to the effect that bills are to be paid in full and that the TCC will not allow subscribers to pay their accumulated dues by instalment.

## Jordanian exports double

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan's national exports in the first nine months of 1987 amounted to JD 17.325 million, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The bulletin said that exports in the same period of 1986 amounted to JD 8.676 million, and that most exports went to Arab countries followed by the European Community nations.

Other Jordanian exports went to Eastern Europe, India, Japan and other Asian nations.

Also, according to the bulletin, a total of 204 vessels docked at Aqaba port in the first 11 months of 1987. The bulletin said that 19,015 passengers arrived at the sea port on ships while the number of those leaving the country through the port city amounted to 12,179 in the same period.

## Industry chief stresses need to boost output

AMMAN (J.T.) — Chamber of Industry President Khalidoun Abu Hassan has stressed the importance of a sound industrial sector as the basis for a healthy and balanced economic growth.

In a prologue he wrote for the new issue of the chamber's magazine "The Industry Message," Abu Hassan said all concerned parties should join efforts towards passing the hurdles impeding industrial development, especially in a resource-limited country like Jordan.

He said that once the Chamber of Industry succeeds in identifying the shortfalls and look into their causes, it would be easy to further enhance the industrialisation process in Jordan.

Abu Hassan pointed out that many countries have been successful in shifting towards industrialisation.

## Bahrain draws guidelines for assessing credit risks

BAHRAIN (R) — Bahrain's monetary authorities have drawn up a framework for assessing credit risk to help banks determine the level of loan loss provisions for countries and borrowers with payments difficulties.

The Bahrain Monetary Agency (BMA) said Tuesday it issued details to all banks incorporated on the island but added it had emphasised the system "should not be regarded as an exhaustive or definitive framework."

The move, announced as Bahrain's major banks are declaring 1987 results, follows an international trend towards increasing provisions against Third World debt.

The BMA said in a statement it had in recent years consistently encouraged adequate provisioning against loans to borrowers or

countries experiencing repayment difficulties.

They agency added the framework was issued "in encouraging banks to ensure that they have adequate levels of provisions and to assist in the process of determining the necessary extent of provisioning."

Banks said it was based on a points system designed to assess credit risk on a sliding scale.

Bahrain's biggest offshore bank Arab Banking Corporation said last week it had set aside \$375 million in loan provisions in its 1987 accounts and declared zero profit.

A consortium bank with heavy Latin American debt exposure, Arfahank International, declared a \$132 million 1987 loss earlier in the month and set aside \$129 million in loan provisions.

## Foreign liabilities exceed assets at banks in U.S.

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — U.S. banks took in more from the rest of the world than they lent during the third quarter of 1987, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said Wednesday.

The last time that happened was in 1975.

U.S. banks' foreign liabilities rose by \$52.6 billion to \$497.7 billion in the quarter, while their foreign assets grew by \$22.0 billion to \$488.1 billion.

Most of the gain in liabilities — a record \$32 billion a quarter — came from foreign deposits.

The office began accumulating its B.P. stake soon after the British government sold \$2.27 billion (\$4 billion) worth of shares in the oil giant in October. The share sale was massively under-subscribed because it coincided with the stock market crash.

The British treasury said in January it had received assurances from the Kuwaiti government that the investment office does not intend to launch a takeover bid for B.P.

## OPEC president urges all oil producers to cooperate

CALGARY (R) — The president of OPEC said Tuesday that he had urged non-OPEC oil producers to exercise restraint to maintain stability in the world market but did not ask for specific output or price limits.

"What we would like all oil producers to do is to exercise a certain amount of restraint," OPEC President Rikman Lukman told a news conference in Calgary, Canada's oil capital.

Lukman, Nigeria's minister of petroleum resources, has held a series of meetings over the past three days with Canadian government officials and executives of oil companies operating in the country.

In addition to seeking help from outside OPEC — the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries — in maintaining an oil price range of \$18 to \$20 per barrel, he has been discussing natural gas and petrochemical developments.

Lukman said OPEC members were restraining their own output to keep a balance between supply and demand and added: "We

expect other players in the field to come along with us and cooperate."

Asked whether he had asked Canadian officials to restrain production or set minimum prices, he said: "We don't go about suggesting things like that to governments. We just point out to them... the need to contribute in whatever way they can to help establish stability."

"We want to see the price of oil evolve on a grading scale over a period of time in orderly fashion to stop these ups and downs," he said.

He said oil prices "should rally around \$18 per barrel... provided we produce what we say we are producing and provided other people do not go ahead and produce a lot more than they are now."

He said that OPEC members

excluding Iraq "are producing a lot below the 15.06 million barrels per day" target agreed in December and Iraq is producing another two million to 2.2 million barrels per day.

Asked about the prospects of the OPEC members — excluding Iraq, which was not a part of the agreement — holding to the output target limit, he said: "We will hold it."

He repeated earlier assertions that, contrary to some oil industry reports, Nigeria was not selling oil below official prices and had refused to do so when asked.

Asked whether, as some analysts on Wall Street have felt, OPEC was losing its "muscle," he said: "We ask who was responsible for the price going back from \$10 to \$18. It was not Wall Street."

The Nigerian oil minister said his country was interested in buying into U.S. or Canadian companies' refineries as a way of ensuring markets but said that was not part of his personal mission.

## Soviets increase imports of grain

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Soviet Union produced its third-largest total grain harvest last year, but the output and the quality of wheat was still low that Moscow was forced to import huge quantities of bread grain, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) said Tuesday.

Much of the imported wheat has come from the United States under a subsidy programme that allows selected foreign customers to buy farm commodities at prices below U.S. market levels.

Last month the Soviet Union officially reported the 1987 grain crop at 211.3 million tonnes, up slightly from 210.1 million tonnes in 1986, the first back-to-back harvests of more than 200 million tonnes.

According to the report's annual listings, the 1987 harvest was the largest since the record output of 237.4 million tonnes in 1978. The next biggest was 223.8 million tonnes in 1976.

The USDA had been estimating

last year's Soviet harvest at 210 million tonnes. Although Moscow did not include a breakdown for 1987 production of all grains, department experts estimated last year's wheat harvest at 80.5 million tonnes, well below the 92.3 million tonnes produced in 1986.

"Not only is the 1987 USSR wheat crop estimated to be down from last year's good harvest, but quality was apparently also affected by adverse harvesting weather," the department reported. "Reflecting this, bread-quality wheat and durum (wheat for pasta) have accounted for about 90 per cent of USSR wheat purchases to date."

The current Soviet purchasing pattern is in sharp contrast to a year ago when feed wheat for livestock accounted for nearly a fourth of the wheat imports.

Even so, the Soviet Union's total grain imports are substantial and are estimated at 32 million tonnes in the 1987-88 trade year which runs through June 30. That is up one million tonnes from the forecast a month ago and compares with 28.5 million tonnes imported from all sources in 1986-87.

The report said that of the 32 million tonnes the Soviets are expected to import in 1987-88, purchases of U.S. wheat total 8.1 million tonnes.

A tonne is approximately 2,205 pounds and is equal to 36.7 bushels of wheat or soybeans, or 39.4 bushels of corn.

Meanwhile, the 1987 Soviet harvest included record yields of coarse grains such as rye, barley, oats, corn, sorghum and millet, which have resulted in smaller purchases of coarse grain and feed wheat from foreign suppliers.

Sales of U.S. wheat to the Soviet Union have involved subsidy arrangements under the department's export enhancement programme, or EEP. Private exporters get free USDA-owned surplus commodities to make up for lower prices charged to the Soviets, or other designated foreign buyers.

The subsidies vary but mostly have run around \$40 per tonne of wheat, or the equivalent of \$1.09 per bushel.

## New Zealand announces major tax cuts

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand said Wednesday it would start slashing company and personal taxes in a few weeks but deferred a planned single rate of income tax for further consideration.

Company taxes will fall as low as 28 per cent from April 1 and the highest rate of personal tax will be 33 per cent from Oct. 1. Top rate for both taxes is now 48 per cent.

Finance Minister Roger Douglas said the reduction costing about one billion dollars (\$660 million) would be balanced by raising a similar amount through closing tax loopholes and exemptions.

The New Zealand dollar rose sharply to 66.15 U.S. cents from 65.55 in response to the news.

Douglas and Prime Minister David Lange, appearing together for the first time in weeks, both stressed the package did not require either an increase in value added tax or cuts in social spending.

Their announcement at a joint news conference ended two weeks of uncertainty in financial and political circles about the government's real intentions on tax reforms.

On Dec. 17, Douglas

announced plans for reforms, including a flat rate for income tax. He did not disclose its level.

On Jan. 28, Lange said the reforms would leave some people worse off and the package would be delayed.

Douglas responded by cutting short an overseas visit and flying home from London to defend publicly the proposed reforms and the figures on which they were based.

Political analysts viewed the affair as indicating a rift between the two most prominent members of a Labour government that has won plaudits from world economists for its policies.

Douglas was praised by many media commentators while Lange was criticised for making his announcement without consulting the finance minister or cabinet.

Initial media reaction was that Douglas had achieved all his aims except the flat rate and that would receive further consideration.

Douglas said the new corporate rate would be 28 per cent for resident companies — 21 per cent for companies lower than in Australia, he was quick to point out — and 33 per cent for non-resident companies.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1988

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Flighter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** You will have an excellent opportunity to win big money in a project which has been troubling you for some time. If there are any trips you must take soon, now is a good time to make the arrangements.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19):** Take care of any business obligations you have early in the day. Tonight will be a fine time for socializing and making many new contacts.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20):** You can be of real service to the public at this time if you get into some social activities. This should be a wonderful night for romance.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21):** Stop procrastinating about some important business matters. Try to create an atmosphere of cooperation with your co-workers.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21):** If you have to do any research work, now is the time to find the information you need. Pay special attention to your health.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21):** Work on improving the situation at home so that it will become a more comfortable place. Smooth out any arguments with family and friends.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22):** Have a few good friends in who are cheerful and helpful, and have a happy and successful evening. Be very cautious while driving.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22):** An expert can give you fine advice for adding to your income. Listen carefully to this person's suggestions, and follow them.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21):** You can obtain a long-desired wish if you set your mind to it and arrange your budget accordingly. Work on improving your property.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21):** If you do any socializing this evening, stay around only those people with whom you are compatible. Be sure to drive carefully.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20):** Look carefully at the amount of work you have to do, and arrange a schedule which will allow plenty of time for recreation.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19):** If you are having any financial difficulties, talk to an expert who can help you overcome them. Try to be more efficient in your work.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20):** Stay alert to what is going on around you today, and you could find some great opportunities. This is a good time to plan some recreation.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1988

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Flighter Institute

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Some delays or messages may show up off schedule a bit, but be sure to keep any promises you have made to others. This evening will be a good time to further any present business interests.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19):** This will be a very fast-moving day in business, so keep your hand and think carefully. Set aside some time for relaxation tonight.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20):** Your mate may be feeling a bit depressed today, so do whatever you can to improve the situation. Be sure to drive with care.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21):** A business associate has some great new ideas which can help you advance, so listen to this person and show your gratitude for the help.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21):** Moonbathing your temples can help you to become more efficient. Pay particular attention to the state of your health.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21):** This could be an unpleasant evening if you don't keep a promise you have made to your mate. Be more kind and considerate to your friends.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22):** You will have an opportunity to improve home conditions and create better harmony among your family. This is a good time for entertaining.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22):** If at all possible, any necessary appointments should be scheduled for this evening. Arrange a new recreation with your friends.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21):** Attend to the needs of your kin, especially those of a monetary nature. A trusted adviser can give you some good suggestions.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21):** Some good friends can do much to help you achieve your goals, so don't hesitate to ask for assistance if you think you need it.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20):** If you are having any financial difficulties, talk to an expert who can help you overcome them. Try to be more efficient in your work.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19):** Contact a successful person you know for some good advice on how to improve your situation. Help out a friend who is having a tough time.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20):** You can find the solution to an anxiety you have by discussing it with a good friend. Go out on the town tonight, but don't spend too much.

**If Your Child is Born Today:** He or she will be very open-minded, having many definite opinions, but will also be quite willing to listen to those of others. As fine an education as possible should be provided, and it should include foreign languages since much travel is possible during the lifetime.

**"The Stars Impel: they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!**

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## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares continued mixed in late trading but operators were to a small extent encouraged by the higher Wall Street opening, dealers said. At 1530 GMT Wednesday the FTSE 100 was up 6.2 points at 1,713.4 after a low of 1,704.3 and a high of 1,716.2. Volume at 1500 GMT was a modest 249 million shares, with institutional investors again keeping out of the market because of concern over current U.K. industrial disputes, particularly the Ford strike, and the near term direction of domestic interest rates. Friday's publication of the U.K. retail price index and the U.S. December trade figures contributed to the nervous tone. Dealers expect the recent low volume to continue ahead of Friday, with the U.S. December trade figures forecast to show a deficit of around \$13.75 billion compared with \$13.2 billion in November. The U.K. retail price index, Britain's main measure of inflation, is expected to show a small monthly increase. Dealers said the figure is of major importance in the current climate, with many investors worried that interest rates will soon have to rise to help contain inflation.

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.7590/7600	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2678/88	Canadian dollar
	1.6905/12	Deutsche marks
	1.8976/86	Dutch guilders
	1.3840/50	Swiss francs
	35.33/37	Belgian francs
	5.7070/7100	French francs
	1244/1245	Italian lire
	128.80/90	Japanese yen
	6.0375/0425	Swedish crowns
	6.3950/4000	Norwegian crowns
	6.4870/4920	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	444.20/444.75	U.S. dollars

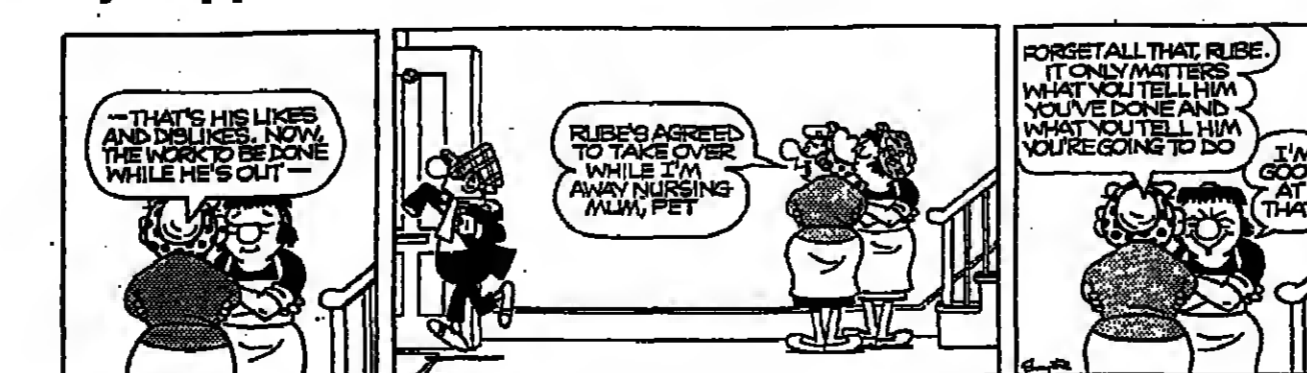
## Peanuts



## Mutt'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE BETTER HALF



## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

T O X E L

S A C E E

E C T I P P

M A N A L Y

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: O O O O O O O O O O

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: HOARD PRIZE ENSIGN MISHAP

Answer: Why rich foods are our destiny — THEY SHAPE OUR "ENDS"

# Senators outraged by report that CIA gave Noriega files on them

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senators are outraged by a report that the CIA routinely sent Panamanian strongman Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega classified reports on their political views and personal lives.

Jose I. Blandon, a former Panamanian intelligence official and diplomat, says Noriega often received the reports in advance of visits by congressional delegations to the Central American nation.

Blandon also told a Senate subcommittee Tuesday that Noriega actively assisted international drug traffickers, accumulated a personal fortune of more than \$200 million, and essentially "turned Panama into a gigantic machine for all sorts of criminal activities and enterprises."

After the testimony, the CIA denied "categorically" that it had supplied Noriega with information on U.S. lawmakers.

Noriega was indicted last week in Miami for allegedly accepting \$4.6 million to provide a safe haven for narcotics and money-laundering operations.

Blandon's testimony appalled senators, especially those whose private lives and political stances were allegedly detailed in CIA dossiers given to Noriega.

Subcommittee Chairman John

Kerry, one of the alleged subjects, called it "as disturbing a revelation as I've heard in the course of a lot of disturbing revelations" about Noriega.

Sen. Edward Kennedy called the prospect of CIA complicity with Noriega "repulsive."

If true, Blandon's allegations would mean the CIA violated a law prohibiting it from gathering information about Americans inside the United States.

"The CIA categorically denies Blandon's assertions that the agency furnished any such information regarding U.S. senators or their staffers to the government of Panama," said Sharon Foster, a CIA spokeswoman.

Blandon was slated for a second round of questioning on the CIA claims, as well as Noriega's alleged involvement in sheltering narcotics traffickers and allowing Panamanian banks to be used as conduits for hundreds of millions of dollars in drug-sale profits.

Also on the witness list was

ate investigators as a former Noriega pilot with detailed knowledge of narcotic shipments and other illegal acts.

Noriega's lawyers disputed Blandon's testimony, describing him as willing to "say what any particular bidder wants him to say at any particular time."

But Kerry, who is heading the investigation by a Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee, said Blandon is credible because his central accusations have been corroborated by other sources.

Blandon, who was fired by Noriega last month as Panama's consul general in New York City, said reports on senators also were received from the National Security Council and all were routinely passed to him as a member of Panama's security apparatus.

Most of the senators involved were sponsors of legislation aimed at cutting off U.S. aid to Panama because of Noriega's alleged drug connections.

Blandon testified before the federal grand jury in Miami which indicted Noriega.

As Kerry, other senators, reporters and members of the public listened to through headsets to Blandon's rapid-fire Spanish, a large uniformed and plainclothes

security force protected the witness.

Blandon's testimony was marked by an outpouring of accusations, all of them disputed by Noriega and his lawyers. They included these:

— Noriega allied himself with international narcotics cartels and built a corrupt criminal "empire" and a personal fortune through military control of immigration, customs, airports and railroads and other Panamanian institutions.

— Noriega's organization provides armoured cars and bodyguards for drug traffickers and money launderers for a fee.

— Cuban President Fidel Castro personally brokered settlement of a dispute between Noriega and Colombia's Medellin narcotics cartel that resulted in the release of 23 arrested Colombian drug traffickers without trial.

— Noriega duplicitously sold arms to leftist rebels in El Salvador while at the same time working with CIA which was battling the guerrillas.

— Noriega established a lavish lifestyle with a dozen homes in Panama, a residence in France, and a fleet of luxury automobiles and airplanes.

## Haiti gets 1st premier

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Martial Celestin became Haiti's first prime minister following his ratification by the National Assembly.

In unanimous votes Tuesday night, the 27 senators and 77 members of the Chamber of Deputies approved President Leslie Manigat's choice of Celestin.

Manigat announced Celestin's nomination after consulting with Senate President Louis Noisin and Chamber of Deputies President Jacques Saint-Louis.

In Haiti's new constitution, written last March, the post of prime minister was included to keep any future president from becoming all-powerful.

## U.N. offers to mediate in Thai-Laotian conflict

BANGKOK (R) — United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has offered to mediate in a border conflict between Thailand and Laos, a Thai Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday.

The official said Thailand had not replied to Perez's offer, received in a telegram Tuesday, and was not likely to negotiate with Laos as long as Laotian troops remained in territory claimed by Thailand.

Since August the two countries have clashed sporadically over a

remote 80-square kilometre area both claim under an 80-year-old treaty.

Last week Thailand said it had control of all but a single hilltop in that area. Thai forces, backed by artillery barrages and airstrikes, were trying to evict a last group of 50 to 70 well-entrenched Laotian troops from Hill 1428.

Both countries have said they want to settle the issue peacefully but Western diplomats in Bangkok said there was no sign either side was backing away from the fighting.

## Hong Kong rules out major political reforms before 1991

HONG KONG (R) — The Hong Kong government Wednesday ruled out any major political changes before 1991, a decision certain to trigger strong protests from pressure groups wanting direct elections to the colony's legislative council.

The colonial government said in a white paper (policy document) published Wednesday that it recognised the need for directly elected members but would not introduce elections until 1991.

Hong Kong reverts to Chinese sovereignty in 1997.

The white paper proposed that 10 of the 56 Legislative Council members would be directly elected from new constituencies.

Scattered throughout Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and the new

territories.

At present, the Legislative Council (Legco) is a consultative body with no veto power that debates policies decided by senior government officers and a handful of influential Hong Kong citizens.

Introducing the white paper to Legco, Chief Secretary Sir David Ford said: "One message has come through loud and clear: The people of Hong Kong want more representative government."

"A substantial number of the people of Hong Kong would regard themselves as enthusiastic supporters of the democratic movement," he added.

But Ford said the government wanted changes to be evolutionary, not revolutionary.

## Waldheim faces mounting pressure to quit presidency

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Austrian President Kurt Waldheim is facing mounting pressure to resign after an international historical panel harshly criticised his role as a lieutenant in the German army under Adolf Hitler.

The conservative Salzburger Nachrichten newspaper said Wednesday that Austria was being increasingly ostracised abroad, while facing growing division at home.

"Only one man could change this development: Kurt Waldheim," the newspaper said in its front page editorial.

In addition, former Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, "in an interview with BBC radio, strongly repeated his call for Waldheim to leave office before his term ends in 1992."

"According to my personal opinion, he must resign because his record is such that he cannot represent Austria in the sense of our constitution," the former Socialist chancellor said.

In Vienna, a pirate radio run by young leftists cut into state radio's rock channel and called for anti-Waldheim demonstrations at Thursday night's opera ball. The ball is the highlight of the city's social season and, by tradition, the president is the

honoured guest at the event.

Vienna-based Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal was among those who Tuesday had issued the strongest demands to the embattled leader.

Among others calling for Waldheim to resign was Heinz Galinski, the head of West Berlin's Jewish community.

The calls for resignation came just as Waldheim was expecting the first state visit of his time in office. His Majesty King Hussein, who hosted the Austrian president in Amman last summer, was expected to arrive in Vienna Wednesday.

Austria's Greens Party called Waldheim's refusal to resign "a slap in the face" for the republic.

In its early Wednesday editions, the Kurier tabloid of Vienna said "the coalition (government) missed breaking by a hair on account of Waldheim."

Waldheim, 69, has refused to resign, maintaining he is free of wrongdoing.

## Bush seeks comeback in New Hampshire primary

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire (R) — Vice President George Bush, reeling from a sound defeat in Iowa, sought on Wednesday to rally support in New Hampshire for round two of the presidential campaign.

Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis hoped to secure himself as the Democratic front-runner.

Bush, who finished third among the Republicans in the Iowa caucuses two days ago, said at his first stop in New Hampshire Tuesday: "I want to battle on and fight back, and I'm told by people who know this state we've got a very good chance."

Dukakis, pleased with his solid third place in the Democratic side of the Iowa caucuses, is considered a strong candidate in New Hampshire, partly because many residents of his own state live there.

All were also aware that no candidate since 1952 has been elected president without first winning New Hampshire.

So numerous were the candidates' rallies and speeches that, during a one-hour period, five chartered jets carrying five different candidates flew into Manchester airport.

Bush, after taking only 19 per cent of the Republican vote in Iowa, was particularly determined to recapture his front-runner status in the upcoming primary.

Kansas Senator Robert Dole led the field as expected in Iowa with 38 per cent of the vote, but former television Evangelist Pat Robertson won a stunning upset over Bush by placing second with 24 per cent.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SARHAN  
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YOUNG PLAYERS VIE FOR HONORS  
In junior international competition.

On this hand North-South were awarded 6 points for reaching a spade game or partial, or for doubling any opposing contract above the level of two hearts. A club partscore received only 2 points.

The hand is a defensive problem. After leading a high diamond, West should realize that declarer has no side-suit long cards that can be established. Since trumps are breaking, West must also recognize that a forcing game will only help declarer—if South can maneuver three diamond ruffs in hand he can make the contract on a dummy reversal. Therefore, West gets 8 points for shifting to a trump at trick two. That proves one of dummy's entries prematurely, and declarer can come to only nine tricks.

If, after the trump shift, declarer ruffs a couple of diamonds, West must take care to unblock in the suit. Otherwise he can be thrown in with the fourth diamond after three rounds of clubs have been cashed, and be forced to concede the king of hearts to declarer as the fulfilling trick.

There is one more wrinkle to the hand. Should South lead a low club toward dummy at some point, West must insert the ten. If he does not, declarer can finesse the table's nine as the extra entry for the dummy reversal.

The opening salvo of the American Contract Bridge League's program to encourage young people to play the game was the resurrection of the North American Intercollegiate Championship. Although participation was somewhat disappointing (only 22 schools held games), at least a start has been made.

"Bridge World" co-editor Jeff Rubens prepared 24 challenging par hands for the first stage of the competition. Conference winners are at this moment playing off for the right to represent the ACBL.

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